

His Majesty's
MOST GRACIOUS
S P E E C H
To both HOUSES of
P A R L I A M E N T,
On Tuesday the Sixteenth Day of April, 1734.



L O N D O N,
Printed by John Baskett, Printer to the King's most Excellent
Majesty. 1734.

His Majesty's

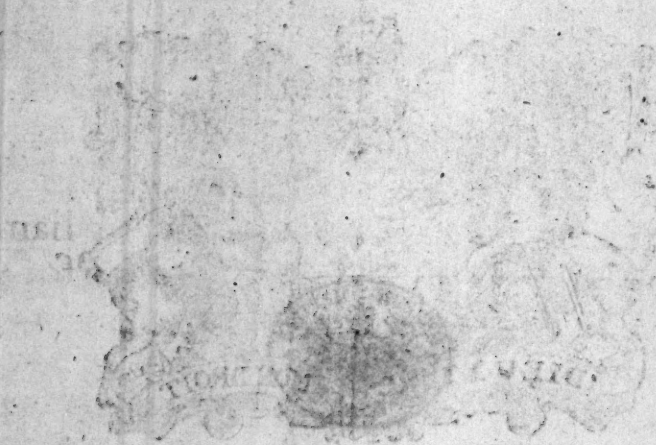
MOST GRACIOUS

SPEECH

To both Houses of

PARLIAMENT

On the 10th of April 1734



LONDON

Printed by J. Smith, Printer to the King's most Excellent Majesty. 1734.

His MAJESTY's most Gracious SPEECH to both Houses of Parliament, on Tuesday the Sixteenth Day of April, 1734.

My Lords and Gentlemen,



Give you My hearty Thanks for the great Dispatch you have given to the Publick Business, and for the Confidence you have reposed in Me for the Honour and Security of My Kingdom; so short a Session, at so critical and important a Conjunction, concluded with so much Unanimity, and so just a Regard for the true Interest of the Nation, will give great Weight and Credit to all Our Publick Transactions, and procure that Respect and Dependence upon the great Council of this Nation, which are so necessary to support the Honour and Interest of *Great Britain*, both at Home and Abroad.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I must acknowledge in a particular Manner the Zeal and Readiness which you have shewn in raising, in so effectual a Manner, the necessary Supplies for the Service of the Year; the Provision you have made for paying off great Part of the Debt of the Navy, a Debt necessarily and unavoidably incurred, and carrying a higher Interest than the old National Debt, and which, being at a Discount, increased the Charge and Expence in all Contracts of the Navy and Victualling, must certainly be thought of singular Service to the Publick.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

The Time limited for the Expiration of this Parliament drawing near, I have resolved forthwith to issue My Proclamation for the dissolving of it, and for calling a new Parliament, that the Inconveniencies unavoidably attending a general Election, may be put an end to as soon as possible; but I should think My self inexcusable, if I parted with this Parliament without doing them the Justice to acknowledge the many signal-Proofs they have given, through the Course of Seven Years, of their Duty, Fidelity, and Attachment to My Person and Government, and their constant Regard to the true Interest of their Country.

The Prosperity and Glory of My Reign depend upon the Affection and Happiness of My People, and the Happiness of My People upon My preserving to them all their legal Rights and Privileges, as established under the present Settlement of the Crown in the Protestant Line. A due Execution and strict Observance of the Laws, are the best and only Security both to Sovereign and Subject; their Interest is mutual and inseparable, and therefore their Endeavours for the Support of each other

ought to be equal and reciprocal; any Infringement or Ineroachment upon the Rights of either is a Diminution of the Strength of both, which kept within their due Bounds and Limits, make that just Balance which is necessary for the Honour and Dignity of the Crown, and for the Protection and Prosperity of the People. What depends upon Me, shall, on My Part, be religiously kept and observed, and I make no doubt of receiving the just Returns of Duty and Gratitude from them.

I must in a particular Manner recommend it to you, and from your known Affection do expect, that you will use your best Endeavours to heal the unhappy Divisions of the Nation, and to reconcile the Minds of all, who truly and sincerely wish the Safety and Welfare of the Kingdom. It would be the greatest Satisfaction to Me to see a perfect Harmony restored amongst them that have one and the same Principle at Heart, that there might be no Distinction, but of such as mean the Support of Our present happy Constitution in Church and State, and such as wish to subvert both. This is the only Distinction that ought to prevail in this Country, where the Interest of King and People is one and the same, and where they cannot subsist, but by being so. If Religion, Liberty, and Property, were never at any Time more fully enjoyed, without not only any Attempt, but even the Shadow of a Design, to alter or invade them, let not these sacred Names be made use of, as artful and plausible Pretences, to undermine the present Establishment, under which alone they can be safe.

I have nothing to wish but that My People may not be misguided; I appeal to their own Consciences for My Conduct, and hope the Providence of God will direct them in the Choice of such Representatives, as are most fit to be trusted with the Care and Preservation of the Protestant Religion, the present Establishment, and all the Religious and Civil Rights of *Great Britain*.

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Then the Lord Chancellor, by His Majesty's Command, said,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I*t is His Majesty's Royal Will and Pleasure, That this Parliament be Prorogued to Tuesday the Fourteenth Day of May next, to be then here held; and this Parliament is accordingly Prorogued to Tuesday the Fourteenth Day of May next.*

F I N I S.

